



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Slater, et al.

1652

Group No.:

Examiner:

Serial No.:

09/641,319

R. Hutson

Filed:

08/18/2000

Entitled:

Thermophilic DNA Polymerases From Thermotoga Neapolitana

DECLARATION OF JAMES HARTNETT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)(1)(i)(A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Examiner Hutson:

- I, James Hartnett, hereby declare and state, under penalty of perjury, that:
- 1. I am one of the inventors of the above-named patent application (hereinafter "present application").
- 2. The claimed invention was reduced to practice in the United States of America prior to January 9, 1995, as indicated from this Declaration and the attached notebook pages. The work presented in the notebook pages was performed in this country by me or under my supervision. As evidenced from these documents, we developed mutant DNA polymerases derived from Thermotoga neapolitana. This includes mutants shown in Figure 4 of the present application. For example, the deletion mutant Thermotoga neapolitana polymerase labeled as M284, which provides a reduction in 5'-3' exonuclease activity through generation of deletion mutations is described on pages 32 (design) and 50 (activity assay of generated mutant) of the notebook 100893. Likewise, substitution mutants that reduce 3'-5' exonuclease activity were generated. For example, the combination deletion and substitution mutant Thermotoga

neapolitana polymerase labeled as M284 (D323A, D389A) in Figure 4 of the present application is described on pages 27 (design) and 54 (use of the mutant enzyme in sequencing reaction) of notebook 100996 (the D323A is referred to as D355A and D389A is referred to as D424A in the notebook).

3. I further declare that all statements made herein are of my own knowledge, are true, and that all statements are made on information and belief that are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application of any patent issued thereon.

Dated: 11-12-03

James Hartnett

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100996 PROJECT Creating the double knock-out mutant Notebook No. ____ 24 27 sure 3'- 5' is astrity is completely removed of want to have 0355A, 0424A double mutant. The is acceptibled by transferring the CSO 45I fragment of 0355A into the 0424A 1 pg 0355A pland at with Cop 45I 0355A PYZYA 19424A reaction phosphatical
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4		Read and Understood By	Continued on Page 56
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